Lecture



◆ Moderator

Profile

## Hiroshi Ogawa

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【併催学会】(口腔衛生

WHO Collaborating Centre for Translation of Oral Health Science (JPN-75)

- 1994 Faculty of Dentistry at Matsudo, Nihon University (DDS)
- 1996 Graduate School of Dentistry, University of Sydney (MDSc)
- 2001 Graduate School of Dentistry, Niigata University (PhD)
- 2003 Short Term Professional, WHO Oral Health Programme
- 2011 Associate Professor, Division of Preventive Dentistry, Niigata University
- 2014 Dental Officer, WHO Oral Health Programme
- 2018 Head and Professor, Division of Preventive Dentistry, Niigata University
- 2018 Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Translation of Oral Health Science (JPN-75)
- 2019 Chair, Committee for the International Affair, Japanese Society for Oral Health



## Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Oral Health - WHO perspectives

## ◆ Speaker Benoit Varenne

(NCD Department, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland)

Oral health has been neglected for too long in the global health agenda. The 2021's landmark WHA74 Resolution on Oral Health is a game-changer and opens a promising window of opportunity to improve oral health promotion and address the situation of people affecting by oral diseases. The WHO resolution reinforces the WHO's mandate but above all commit the Member States to action. Based on the principle of Universal Health Coverage the efforts should be 3 areas: 1) integrated preventive and control oral health services including a basic package of care at PHC; 2) mixed skills oral health workforce dedicated towards population health needs; and 3) financial protection throughout expanding insurance health coverage for less invasive and environmentally sounds oral health care. Such coordinated approach will help reorient oral health policy and planning away from one based on a conventional model of restorative dentistry, towards a promotive and preventive model of health that is integrated into health systems at all levels, and actively contributes to achieving UHC. The WHO resolution calls for a paradigm shift in the field of oral health. It must become an advocacy document for all health actors to communicate the place and value of oral health for every individual without leaving no one behind. Its success will depend on the mobilization of the oral health community and beyond.

**Profile** Benoit Varenne is leading WHO's work on the global oral health agenda as Dental Officer in the Noncommunicable Disease (NCDs) Department, World Health Organization (WHO). Before joining WHO HQ, Geneva, Benoit was the Regional Advisor for Oral Health in the WHO African region. In prior years, Benoit worked as a public health consultant for several years, as a consultant for WHO in the Eastern Mediterranean region and worked closely with numerous NGOs and other international health organizations. He has assisted ministries of health and health care policymakers in several parts of the world with a special focus on low-income settings. Benoit graduated in medical dentistry at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, France, and holds a Ph.D. in Public Health and Epidemiology from University of Pierre and Marie Curie (Paris VI). In addition to France, Benoit has studied in community health at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark.